

Chapter 9.0

Effects Not Found to be Significant

Section 15060(d) of the State CEQA Guidelines indicates that if the Lead Agency can determine that an EIR will be clearly required for a project, *“the agency may skip further initial review of the project and begin work directly on the EIR process . . . In the absence of an Initial Study, the Lead Agency shall still focus the EIR on the significant effects of the project and indicate briefly its reasons for determining that other effects would not be significant or potentially significant.”* Therefore, this chapter fulfills the CEQA requirement to *“. . . briefly [indicate] the reasons that various possible significant effects of a project were determined not to be significant and were therefore not discussed in detail in the EIR”* (Section 15128).

The organization of this chapter follows the suggested initial environmental checklist form (Appendix G) included in the State CEQA Guidelines. Where areas of potential environmental concern have been addressed in this EIR, it is noted and no further discussion of the issue is provided. Each topical area of the checklist is noted here for reference purposes. In summary, each of the following areas is analyzed in Chapter 4 of this EIR.

AESTHETICS

The project’s visual impacts have been described in detail in Section 4.13 (Aesthetics). Since the project would operate during daylight hours, no light or glare impacts would result. Night lighting would be limited to low level security lighting. Additionally, Section 4.9 (Biological Resources) analyzes the effects of light sources on sensitive wildlife corridors. No further analysis of the project’s visual effects is necessary.

AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES

An assessment of the proposed project’s impacts on agricultural resources on- and off-site is presented in Section 4.8, Agricultural Resources. No further evaluation of impacts is necessary.

AIR QUALITY

The project’s effects on air pollutant levels, sensitive receptors, and odors are evaluated in Section 4.7 (Air Quality and Air Toxics Health Risks). The directional dispersion of pollutants and odors through wind transport is also evaluated in Section 4.7. No additional discussion of potential air quality impacts is necessary.

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Section 4.9 (Biological Resources) analyzes the project’s potential effects on endangered, threatened, and rare species and their habitats; locally designated species and natural communities; wetland impacts; and wildlife migration corridors. No additional analysis of biological resources is necessary.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Paleontological resources, and archaeological and cultural resources, and ethnohistory and Native American interests are analyzed in detail in Sections 4.10, 4.11, and 4.12, respectively. No additional analysis of impacts relating to cultural resources is necessary.

ENERGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES

The project's use of non-renewable energy resources is evaluated in Section 4.15 (Public Services and Utilities). That analysis indicates that the project would not conflict with any adopted energy conservation plans. Furthermore, subsurface testing within the landfill boundary has not indicated that the site is a potential repository of any known minerals with value as energy resources. No further analysis of this issue is necessary.

GEOLOGY AND SOILS

Potential fault rupture, seismic ground shaking, seismic ground failure, topographic changes, landslides, and soil characteristics and stability are analyzed in Section 4.2 (Geology and Soils). Soil erosion impacts are addressed in Section 4.4 (Surface Hydrology). Unique geologic or physical features are analyzed in detail in Section 4.13 (Aesthetics). By virtue of the project site's inland location and distance from large bodies of standing water, the project would not result in nor expose people to potential seiche or tsunami impacts. Likewise, the lack of volcanic activity in the region precludes the likelihood of any related impacts. No additional discussion of impacts is necessary.

HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Hazardous air emissions are evaluated in Section 4.7 (Air Quality and Air Toxics Health Risks). Issues related to the presence, release, and containment of hazardous wastes are addressed in Section 4.16 (Human Health and Safety). As noted previously, Section 4.16 also analyzes emergency response and contingency plans for various aspects of the landfill operations. Section 4.15 assesses fire hazard potential with regard to wildfires and refuse fires. Section 4.2 (Geology and Soils) assesses potential personnel safety issues related to rockfall occurrence. Sections 4.3 (Hydrogeology) and 4.4 (Surface Hydrology) study the potential effects of waterborne transport of contaminants and pollutants. The site is more than two miles from an airport; therefore, no discussion is necessary on this issue. Since numerous chemical and physical hazards are analyzed throughout Chapter 4.0, no further discussion is necessary.

HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

Potential flooding impacts, streambed scour processes, surface runoff quantities and patterns, and surface water quality are analyzed in Section 4.4 (Surface Hydrology). Issues relating to potential changes in the quantity, quality, and direction of flow of groundwaters are addressed in Section 4.3 (Hydrogeology). No additional analysis of surface water or groundwater effects is necessary.

LAND USE AND PLANNING

Land use policies, land use compatibility, agricultural resources, habitat conservation plan, and socioeconomic issues are addressed in detail in Sections 4.1 (Land Use and Related Planning), 4.8 (Agricultural Resources), 4.9 (Biological Resources), and 4.14 (Socioeconomics). No additional discussion is required.

NOISE

Construction and operational noise levels, as well as the potential exposure of people to severe noise levels from activities such as blasting, are analyzed in detail in Section 4.6 (Noise and Vibration). No additional discussion of potential noise or vibration impacts is required.

POPULATION AND HOUSING

Issues related to population growth and the potential displacement of housing are discussed in detail in Section 4.14 (Socioeconomics). Potential growth inducement is analyzed in Chapter 8.0 (Growth-Inducing Impacts). No additional analysis of these issues is required.

PUBLIC SERVICES

An assessment of the proposed project's impacts on public services and facilities (i.e., police, fire, schools) is presented in Section 4.15 (Public Services and Utilities). No further evaluation of impacts is necessary.

RECREATION

The proposed project could potentially involve the use of property outside of the landfill footprint and facilities areas for recreational purposes, as described in Section 4.1 (Land Use and Related Planning). The project's effects on existing recreational uses in the area are primarily limited to the aesthetic changes the landfill would produce in the vicinity, as described in detail in Section 4.13 (Aesthetics). No additional analysis of recreational impacts is required.

TRANSPORTATION/CIRCULATION

Section 4.5 (Traffic and Circulation) addresses the project's effects on increased vehicle trips and traffic hazards. Parking would be accommodated entirely on-site, as described in Chapter 3.0 (Project Description). Emergency access and response is addressed in Section 4.16 (Human Health and Safety). No additional discussion of transportation impacts is necessary.

UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

An assessment of the proposed project's impacts on utilities and service systems is presented in Section 4.15 (Public Services and Utilities). Stormwater drainage impacts are analyzed in Section 4.4 (Surface Hydrology). No further evaluation of impacts is necessary.